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CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report was requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/89 of 16 December 1992 and provides updated information to the previous report on the subject (A/47/379).

2. In the resolution, the Assembly called upon Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify financial and other support to the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in the fulfilment of its objectives, particularly those concerning training, technical assistance, policy guidance, research and data collection, and reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to ensure that sufficient resources are provided to the Institute within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 to enable the Institute to carry out, in full and on time, all its mandates.

3. On the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1993/33, in which it encouraged Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its objectives, particularly those concerning training, technical assistance, policy guidance, research and data collection, and it requested the Secretary-General and the United Nations Development Programme to continue providing assistance and support to the Institute.

4. Notwithstanding those calls, the financial base of the Institute appears not to be guaranteed from 1994 onwards without continued budgetary support by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Only 26 member States of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) are members of the Institute. Out of these States, as of 31 May 1993, only three had remitted in full their assessed contributions up to 31 December 1992, and five others had made partial payments for the period 1989 to 1992. As a result, the total outstanding balance as at 31 December 1992 is US$ 618,565 since 1989 (see table 3). A further $250,000 falls due in 1993. For the period 1992-1993, UNDP once again provided the Institute with financial support of $693,552 for 1992 (see table 4) and $746,016 for 1993 (see table 5). This contribution is expected to be spent by December 1993.

5. This situation is all the more regrettable as the Institute has a remarkable potential to address the pressing needs of African countries in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice. A solid financial base for the Institute is crucial to ensure effective work. The Institute serves a region in which most of the countries have the status of developing or least developed countries. Their needs for democratization, crime prevention, criminal justice reform and training of personnel are not only immense but also extremely urgent.

6. As two African countries, Tunisia and Egypt, have extended invitations to host the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held in 1995, it is likely that this major event will be held in Africa for the first time. The Institute could play a crucial role not only in the preparations but also in the conduct of the Congress.

7. The Government of Uganda has offered to host the African Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Ninth Congress at Kampala (see Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/32). The Institute may provide the infrastructure in organizing the meeting.

II. STATUS OF OPERATIONS

8. The following is an indication of the present status of the Institute's operations in so far as the situation differs from the previous report submitted to the General Assembly (A/47/379).

A. Staffing

9. At present the Institute has 18 posts, of which 7 are Professional and 11 local level (see table 1). The post of Director fell vacant in August 1992 and the recruitment process is being handled by ECA and the Institute's Governing Board. Arrangements to fill the post of a systems analyst are at an advanced stage. The Institute engaged a temporary Finance Officer while the post is being widely advertised.

B. Programme activities

10. The work programme of the Institute for the period 1992-1993 consists of the following subprogramme activities:

(a) General direction and management;

(b) Training;

(c) Comparative research and policy development;

(d) Advisory services/technical cooperation;

(e) Information and documentation services;

(f) Conferences and seminars/joint activities.

1. General direction and management

11. The Institute continued to administer staff, funds and other resources efficiently to ensure the effective and timely implementation of the approved subprogramme activities. It has vigorously undertaken activities to mobilize support and funds for its work even though it has continued to be constrained by member States' unsatisfactory responses. It has also carried out periodic evaluation of the progress activities.

2. Training/human resource development

12. The training and human resources development programme of the Institute continued to be geared towards upgrading the skills, knowledge and expertise of crime prevention and criminal justice professionals of the African region, with priority being accorded to the training of trainers. Training material and programmes, designed for different categories of personnel, continued to be developed.

13. The following human resources development training seminars and workshop were held:

(a) Training Seminars on Planning for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Administration in the Context of Development (Francophone African countries), 25-29 May 1992, Bujumbura, Burundi;

(b) Training Seminar on Victims of Crime and the Prevention of Victimization (bilingual), Kampala, 29 June-3 July 1992;

(c) Training and Coordination Workshop for African Crime Victimization/Criminal Justice Survey (Francophone African countries) Kampala, 23-27 November 1992.

14. From 22 to 26 February 1993, a bilingual Training Workshop on Reforms of Penal Law and Procedures, was held at Kampala. It was attended by government officials in Ministries of Justice from 19 countries. Arrangements were finalized for the conduct of a Workshop on the Training Needs and Justice Training Requirements of African Countries for Heads of Institutions of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in July 1993. Participants from 18 countries were expected to take part. The Institute also participated in a series of training seminars organized by other agencies or jointly with other bodies for professionals from various justice-related sectors across Africa.

3. Comparative research and policy development

15. The research and policy development activities of the Institute continued to aim at providing a sound empirical basis for the formulation of responsive and effective policies and programmes to minimize crime and delinquency in the region. The Institute continued the assessment of the requirements of African Governments and recommended that the member States utilize, on a trial basis, the elaborated framework for the collection of reliable data, inter alia, by developing survey-type research tools and conducting policy-oriented studies.

16. Regional research activities during the reporting period included studies on crime, victimization and the criminal; criminal law, procedures and appropriate reforms; and the interrelationship between development and criminality as a basis for policy formulation.

17. The Institute continued to carry out activities on priority issues of the African region. These included the establishment of the above-mentioned framework and systems at national levels for the regular collection, processing and analysis, and the publication and dissemination of reliable data; the

training of middle-level criminal justice personnel at the national level; and the creation of a database on crime, criminal victimization and the administration of justice. The Institute's Research Adviser commenced in November 1992 and was immediately involved in the initial stages of the conduct of the African crime, victimization and criminal justice administration survey. Data collection began in December 1992. The pilot survey, undertaken in both Bujumbura (Burundi) and Kampala (Uganda), was completed in May 1993, and the data analysis and final report are expected to be ready by August 1993. At the same time, initial work was started on a survey of penal laws and criminal procedures in African countries. However, a substantial part of the approved research activities including the implementation of both crime survey, victimization and criminal justice administration survey as well as the survey of penal laws have been impeded by lack of funds. The completion of these important activities will depend on the receipt of the required resources.

4. Information and documentation services

18. The Institute continued its efforts to establish a specialized reference library and to develop a mechanism for sharing and transferring knowledge in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in Africa. However, financial limitations have constrained the acquisition of relevant materials. Other institutes within the programme network, particularly the Australian Institute of Criminology, have been generous in their assistance to the African Institute in this regard.

19. Issues 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the "Newsletter" of the Institute were published in English and French and sent to Governments and to academic institutions and experts. Similarly, reports of seminars and workshops, including the training seminar on combating corruption, economic and organized crime in Africa, held at Kampala in January 1992, as well as those mentioned in paragraphs 15 to 17 above, were issued as publications 3 to 7 of the Institute and sent to Governments, other crime prevention institutes, academic institutions and experts.

5. Advisory services to Governments

20. The Institute provided advisory services to requesting countries of the region to assist in the development and adoption of effective measures to combat criminality, improve the quality of services provided tc offenders in custodial institutions, and to improve the observance of human rights in the administration of justice, in line with United Nations norms, standards and guidelines in this field. Arrangements for other advisory missions have been made. It is planned that by August 1993, five advisory services missions will be undertaken in Kenya, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Burundi, and Lesotho. It is now apparent that as the Institute becomes known through activities already executed, the greater will be the demand on it for delivery of other needed services in different countries. The Institute also expanded on its developed strategy to promote subregional and regional collaboration.

21. At the same time, proposals for joint activities have been elaborated and recommended to the Organization of African Unity and the Ford Foundation.

Contacts have been made with various agencies in the region in connection with the conduct of the regional survey on crime, victimization and criminal justice in Africa. The Arab Security Studies and Training Centre has indicated readiness to cooperate with the Institute in undertaking certain activities of common interest in North Africa.

6. Conferences and seminars/joint activities

22. The Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI) and the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre (ASSTC) sponsored the participation of the Officer-in-Charge of the African Institute in the eighth Joint Coordination Meeting of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes. The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) has agreed to provide technical assistance towards upgrading the skills and knowledge of senior staff in research designs and implementation. The Institute and HEUNI have agreed to explore areas of collaboration and cooperation. The International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council (ISPAC) has intensified cooperation by facilitating the participation of staff of the Institute in ISPAC activities. Staff of the Institute have participated in four such activities.

23. The Officer-in-Charge of the Institute attended the second session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held at Vienna, which offered him the opportunity to meet with officials of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Secretariat and to attend the special Coordination Meeting of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network. He also met and held discussion with representatives of various delegations. In addition, he attended the Executive Board Meeting of ISPAC, held at Milan in February 1993.

III. FUNDING AND SUPPORT

A. Funding sources

1. Assessed financial contributions of African member States

24. In accordance with the statute of the Institute, its administrative and programme costs are to be defrayed by financial contributions from African member States. As of 31 May 1993, of the 26 participating States, only three had remitted in full their assessed contributions up to 31 December 1992, and five others had made partial payments towards their assessed contributions for the period 1989 to 1992. Thus, of the expected collections from the 26 member States for the period 1989-1990 and 1991-1992 amounting to $753,466, only $134,901 had been remitted (see table 3).

25. The Government of Uganda continued to support the Institute. It provided $173,152.14 for the renovation of the Institute headquarters building during the period 1991-1992, and it is anticipated that a further allocation of $161,233 will be made for the period 1992-1993 for outstanding renovation work.

2. United Nations Development Programme

26. The main source of funding for the work and operations of the Institute since its inception in 1989 has been UNDP. For the period 1989-1992, UNDP contributed $861,057.13 to the Institute. For 1993, UNDP funding to the Institute had been budgeted to be $746,016 (see table 5). However, in accordance with the recent decision of UNDP to revise downward the expenditure target for all core programmes, this figure has been reduced by 25 per cent.

27. The UNDP/UNAFRI project will terminate on 31 December 1993.

3. Economic Commission for Africa

28. The member States of the Institute are 26 of the member States of ECA. Despite the efforts of the Institute and of the Chairman of the Institute Governing Board (who is also the Executive Secretary of ECA) to mobilize support from member States and to secure payment of the assessed contributions, payments have continued to be unsatisfactory. For the period 1989-1992, only eight member States contributed to the Institute a lump sum of $134,901; thus the total outstanding balance increased to $618,565. During 1990/91, ECA gave the Institute financial support amounting to $159,727 (see table 2).

4. United Nations grant

29. In order to secure a temporary solution to the need for a more stable financial base for the Institute, the Secretary-General took action in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 46/153 of 18 December 1991 as reflected in the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/46/77). Taking the 1991 budget of the Institute as a base, the amount of $180,000 from the United Nations regular budget, representing half of the contributions of African member States, was provided as a grant under section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. In 1992, the salaries of the Director and Deputy Director were defrayed from the grant. Similarly, in 1993, the grant was used for the salary of the Deputy Director and certain other administrative expenses.

B. Fund-raising activities

30. The immediate future of the Institute, in the absence of reliable sources of funding, is very uncertain. Indeed its continuation after 1993 is hanging in the balance.

31. Consequently, there is a pressing need for the Institute to be guaranteed assured funding input from one year to the next particularly for its core-staffing and recurrent operations. In order for the Institute to continue its operations and thereby ensure its performance and output to meet the needs of the member States, $1,264,675 would be required for 1994-1995, the breakdown of which is as follows:

(a) Operational budget for core staffing and recurrent expenses estimated at $502,658 during 1994;

(b) The estimated requirements for the period 1994 for substantive activities including training, comparative research and policy development, documentation and information services and advisory services amount to $762,017 (see table 6).

32. Funding is also required for:

(a) The annual meeting of the Institute's Governing Board;

(b) The Joint Meeting of Ministers of Interior and Justice intended to promote joint activities and strategies at regional level.

IV. GOVERNING BOARD

33. According to the decision of the second extraordinary meeting of the Governing Board, held at Addis Ababa in September 1992, the fourth ordinary meeting of the Board should have been convened in May 1993. Owing to unforseen delays in finalizing the auditing of the Institute's accounts for 1992, the meeting was not convened. The secretariat has since requested the Chairman to convene the meeting in September 1993, hoping that the Institute's financial situation would have improved to ensure that the estimated requirement for the meeting, amounting to $7,013, would be available.

V. CONCLUSIONS

34. The Institute is an integral part of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network with specified statutory mandates in the service of the African region, a region with pressing needs. The mandated activities of the Institute include training, advisory services to Governments, action/policy oriented research, and service rendering information and documentation. Since 1991 it has also delivered needed services to member States. For its operational programmes and management, the Institute has, since its inception, received assistance and support from UNDP, which will terminate on 31 December 1993, ECA, the United Nations grant during 1992/93 and some contributions from member States.

35. For the period of four years up to December 1992, despite vigorous efforts, remittances in full or part payment of assessed contributions to the Institute have only been received from eight member States out of 26. According to its statute, the funding of the Institute is the responsibility of these States through the assessed contributions as determined by the Governing Board. The non-remittance of contributions by member States has now reached a serious crisis whereby the Institute is significantly constrained in its efforts to execute its mandated activities and thereby deliver the needed services to member States. Moreover, its survival after 1993 is very uncertain.

36. While it may be understandable that the economic situation of African States has created difficulties in the payment by member States of their

assessed contributions to the Institute, the fact remains that the African countries urgently need the services of the Institute in order to enhance regional cooperation in the fight against crime and to promote concerted responses in dealing with crime, especially economic and transborder criminality. In addition, if the rapidly increasing criminality in African countries is not effectively dealt with, there is every probability that the crime problem will not only inhibit development but that the gains of development so far realized will be destroyed.

37. It is the realization of this harmful threat of the rising crime problem to the well-being of individual national development efforts that led the members to request the Secretary-General and UNDP to provide the support and assistance to the Institute so that it can fulfil its mandate.

Table 1

Current staffing table as of 1993

Post designation/level	Number of posts	Status	Source of funds
Professional posts			
(a) Managerial			
Director (D-1)	1	Vacant	(United Nations grant)
Deputy Director (P-5)	1	Officer-in-charge	(United Nations grant)
(b) Technical/administrative			
Training Officer (P-4)	1		(UNDP)
Research Officer (P-4)	1		(UNDP)
Information/Documentation Officer (P-3)	1		(UNDP)
Acting Finance Officer (P-2)	1	(Temporarily recruited)	(UNDP)
Systems Analyst (P-2)	1	Vacant	(UNDP)
Local level			
Secretary	3		(UNDP)
Administrative Assistant	1		(Member States)
Financial Assistant	1		"
Messenger/Cleaner	3		"
Driver	2		"
Gardener/maintenance	1		"

Table 2

Statement of resources and expenditures for the period ended 31 December 1992 a/

(United States dollars)

1991	Income	Amount
512 616.00	Assessed contributions	250 000.00 b/
20 000.00	Grant from Uganda Government	-
109 590.00	Grant from ECA overhead	-
50 137.00	Grant from ECA United Nations Trust Fund for African Development	-
375 117.00	UNDP Project Fund	475 940.00 c/
-	Grant from United Nations	90 000.00
21 520.00	Interest income	8 840.14
-	Registration fees from seminar participants	1 596.36
1 088 980.00	TOTAL income	826 376.50
	Expenditures	
	Expenditures against assessed contributions	
3 057.00	Administrative support	37 178.08
4 402.00	Official travel	3 787.69
	Meetings	4 860.74
	Expendables	260.47
	Reporting cost	378.88
	Secretarial services	478.25
	Communications	6 671.24
10 427.00	Operations and maintenance	5 067.76
	Transport	8 926.63
	Hospitality	2 455.20
7 259.00	Miscellaneous	5 794.56
25 145.00		75 859.50
	Expenditures against ECA grants	
109 590.00	Overhead - Salaries and allowances	-
50 137.00	ECA Trust Fund - Salaries and allowances	-
159 727.00	Total	-

Table 2 (continued)

1991	Income	Amount
	Expenditures against UNDP Project Fund	
98 776.00	Salaries and allowances	77 731.16
46 213.00	Administrative support personnel	25 532.43
13 101.00	Consultancy	13 177.79
42 740.00	Travel and per diem	24 302.34
-	Mission cost	21 614.98
-	Individual fellowship	1 500.00
137 681.00	Group training/meetings	120 249.55
10 039.00	Expendable equipment	18 338.55
67 007.00	Non-expendable equipment	27 059.57
-	Reporting cost	8 351.53
-	Prior years adjustment	(1 095.93)
27 775.00	Miscellaneous expenses	21 309.98
-	Sundry	6 811.17
443 331.00	Total expenditure	364 883.12
	Expenditures against United Nations grant	
-	Salaries and allowances	42 992.04
-	Travel on separation	3 973.00
-	Other	40 377.84
-		87 342.88
628 204.00	Total expenditure	528 085.50
460 776.33	Excess of income over expenditure	298 291.00

a/ Extracted from the 1992 Institute audited financial statements.

b/ Of this expected amount, only $68,021.19 was received during this period.

c/ Information received from ECA.

Table 3

Assessments, contributions and outstanding balances for the period 1989-1993

(United States dollars)

Member States	Total assessed contributions 1989-1991	Collections 1989-1991	Collections 1992	Collections 1993	Total collections 1989-1993	Balances outstanding at 21 June 1993
Burundi	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Congo	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Egypt	114 500	28 400	-	-	28 400	86 100
Equatorial Guinea	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Gambia	17 450	4 128	-	-	4 128	13 322
Ghana	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Guinea	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	196 350	-	-	-	-	196 350
Malawi	15 783	4 676	-	-	4 676	11 107
Morocco	82 500	-	-	-	-	82 500
Mozambique	17 450	4 288	-	-	4 288	13 162
Niger	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Nigeria	179 450	28 709	-	-	28 709	150 741
Rwanda	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Senegal	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Seychelles	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Sierra Leone	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Somalia	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Sudan	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Togo	15 783	-	-	-	-	15 783
Tunisia	50 400	25 800	12 300	-	38 100	12 300
Uganda	17 450	9 150	4 150	-	13 300	4 150
United Republic of Tanzania	17 450	9 150	4 140	-	13 300	4 150
Zaire	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Zambia	17 450	-	-	-	-	17 450
Zimbabwe	34 600	-	-	-	-	34 600
TOTAL	1 003 466 a/	114 301	20 600	-	114 901	868 565 a/

a/ This figure includes $250,000 budgeted to be received in 1993.

Table 4

Approved programme budget for 1992

(United States dollars)

Description	UNDP	Member States	United Nations grant	Total budget
Director			58 000	58 000
Deputy Director a/			33 040	33 040
Research Officer	36 700			36 700
Training Officer	43 296			43 296
Information/Documentation Officer	35 100			35 100
Finance/Administrative Officer	35 956			35 956
Systems Analyst/United Nations Office at Vienna	24 000			24 000
Consultants	21 000			21 000
Administrative support	32 500	5 000	31 000	68 500
Official travel	50 000			50 000
Mission cost	20 000			20 000
Individual fellowships	40 000			40 000
Group training/meetings	260 000			260 000
Research		16 000		16 000
Information/documentation				
Expendables	20 000			20 000
Non-expendable equipment	35 000	30 000		65 000
Reporting cost	30 000			30 000
Operation and maintenance		12 000		12 000
Communication	10 000			10 000
Hospitality		4 000		4 000
Transport		14 000		14 000
TOTAL	693 552 b/	81 000 c/	122 040 d/	896 592

(Footnotes on following page)

(Footnotes to table 4)

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a/ The post of Deputy Director is filled by a national of the host country.

b/ Within the total UNDP Fund allocation for 1993.

c/ Expenditure of estimates in this column is subject to receipt of remittances of assessed contributions from member States.

d/ From grant approved by the General Assembly for the Institute.

Table 5

Approved programme budget for 1993

(United States dollars)

Description	UNDP	Member States	United Nations grant	Total budget
Director		40	57 960	58 000
Deputy Director		33 040		33 040
Research Officer	43 716			43 716
Training Officer	43 716			43 716
Information/Documentation Officer	39 764			39 764
Finance/Administrative Officer	36 320			36 320
Consultants	21 000			21 000
Administrative support	32 500	36 000		68 500
Systems Analyst/United Nations Office at Vienna	24 000			24 000
Official travel	50 000			50 000
Mission cost	36 000			36 000
Individual fellowships	80 000			80 000
Group training/meetings	250 000			250 000
Research		33 000		33 000
Expendables	19 000			19 000
Non-expendable equipment	33 000			33 000
Reporting cost	30 000			30 000
Communication	7 000	3 000		10 000
Operation and maintenance		12 000		12 000
Transport		14 000		14 000
Hospitality		4 000		4 000
TOTAL	746 016 a/	135 080 b/	57 960	939 056

a/ Within the total UNDP allocation for 1993.

b/ Expenditure of estimates in this column is subject to receipt of remittances of assessed financial contributions from member States.

Table 6

Proposed programme budget for 1994 a/

(United States dollars)

Description	Amount
Director	57 740
Deputy Director	30 649
Research Officer	40 202
Training Officer	40 840
Information/Documentation Adviser	21 531
Administrative/Finance Officer	41 816
Systems Analyst	35 402
Consultants	20 000
Administrative support	66 300
Official travel	50 000
Mission cost	50 000
Individual fellowships	50 000
Group training/meetings	225 360
Research	316 657
Information/documentation	30 000
Expendables	20 000
Non-expendables	68 540
Reporting cost	30 000
Communication	18 000
Maintenance	12 000
Fuel and Transport	14 000
Hospitality	6 000
Total	1 245 037

a/ Subject to the approval by the fourth ordinary session of the Governing Board.